THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Central Government has been advising the State Governments|State Electricity Boards to clear the overdues of the Central Undertakings. Since the arrears kept on accumulating, the Central Government have decided that 25 per cent of the overdues as on a pre-determined date may be adjusted against the Central assistance payable to the State Governments for their plan schemes. The balance will similarly be adjusted in three consecutive years in equal instalments. The undisputed dues as on 31st May, 1990 (more than two months old) to Central Undertakings, *viz*, NTPC, NHPC, BHEL, CIL and NEEPCO from the SEBs have been estimated at Rs. 2762.82 crores. 25 per cent of the undisputed overdues i.e. Rs. 690.74 crores is being recovered in the current financial year 1990-91 in three instalments with effect from August, 1990 by adjustment against Central assistance payable to the State Governments during the year and the balance will similarly be adjusted in three consecutive years in equal instalments. The concerned State Governments have been further requested that the balance of the overdues from their SEBs to Central Undertakings may be cleared early. This position is being monitored closely.

Ayurvedic treatment in foreign countries

*258. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that facilities for Ayurvedic treatment exist in hospitals in some of the foreign countries; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps for contributing to the expertise and knowledge of Ayurvedic System of Medicine in those and other willing foreign countries; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Requests received from foreign countries in this regard are responded positively. Scholars from abroad also avail of the educational facilities in our Ayurvedic institutions. On the request of Government of Mauritius, an Ayurvedic expert was deputed for two months during 1988. Further experts in the field of Ayurveda have been exchanged with the Peoples Republic of Mongolia.

Indian Airlines Engine Overhaulling Workshop at Palam

*259. CHOWDHURY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is setting up an aircraft engine overhauling workshop at Palam, New Delhi;

(b) if so, what kind of aircraft engines would be overhauled in that workshop; and

(c) by when the said workshop will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The workshop will take up work of overhauling turbo fan type engines of moder JT8D installed on B-737 aircraft.

(c) The final testing of machinery and equipment is in progress, after completion of which the work will start in a phased manner.

AIDS ward in AIIMS

*260. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AIIMS was sanctioned a grant of three million rupees to open an AIDS Ward;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the ward is yet to be constructed; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for delay in starting the AIDS Ward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) An amount of Rs. 20.00 lakh has been released to All India Institute of Medical Sciences for purchase of equipment and meeting the expenditure on staff salaries in respect of the AIDS Unit.

(b) and (c) A separate physical facility for management of AIDS cases has been established at the 1st floor of the D-Wing of the AIIMS with a self contained laboratory.

The delay in starting the AIDS Unit is due to the fact that he Laboratory Assistant and Clinical Fellow selected did not report for duty necessitating fresh recruitment. However, the posts of AIDS educator-cum-counsellor, staff nurses, nursing orderly and sweeper have been filled.

Pending the commissioning of AIDS Unit, arrangements have been made to provide medicare facilities including 'home' based care to HIV infected patients suffering from AIDS disease as well as other opportunistic infection.

Difficulties of small investors in investing in shares, debentures of public limited companies

@2077. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the difficulties being faced by the small investors in investing in shares, debentures and deposits in public limited companies as reported in the Economic Times of 8th June, 1990; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to remove the difficulties of small investors?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sufficient safeguards have been provided, *inter alia*, under the provisions of Sections 73, 111 and 113 of the Companies Act 1956, to protect the interests of investors. The discloure provisions made in section 217 and Schedule VI to the Act are also considered as adequate to enable the shareholders to ascertain the financial position and state of affairs of a company. Under section 621 of the Act, a shareholder is entitled to file prosecution against the defaulting company.

Requirement of Kerosene oil in Orissa

2078. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the monthly requirement of kerosene oil in Orissa and how much was allotted to the State during the year 1988, 1989 and upto May, 1990;

(b) whether the actual supply was less than the allotments made; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) The requirements of the States/UTs including Orissa are assessed by allowing suitable growth rate over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocations are made accordingly.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 3049 transferred from 16th August, 1990.